



News Release

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BFC Moving Operations to Clarksburg in July

WASHINGTON, D.C., May 10, 2004 – The Department of Defense Biometrics Fusion Center today announced that it would begin occupying a 26,397 square foot office space in Clarksburg, West Virginia by the end of July 2004. The new building expands the Biometrics Fusion Center's existing capabilities both in capacity and scope.

"We're excited about moving to downtown Clarksburg," said Sam Cava, director of the Biometrics Fusion Center. "This facility will help augment our service to the Department of Defense and U.S. Government."

Working through the General Services Administration, the U.S. Army has funded significant renovations and improvements to the site to meet the military's requirements. The increased laboratory space in the facility will house new state-of-the-art equipment for testing a product's durability, stability, and performance in a variety of military environments. These Controlled Environment Tests – a new capability for the Biometrics Fusion Center – will include Power Quality Tests, Electrostatic Discharge Tests, and Temperature/Humidity Tests.

The BFC will continue testing the integration of biometrics on or with the Common Access Card, which is the standard military identification credential for DoD personnel. The new building will also include a state-of-the-art demonstration center to highlight current and future biometric applications of interest to the Department of Defense.

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The Department of Defense (DoD) Biometrics Management Office (BMO) is the central entity within DoD responsible for leading, consolidating, and coordinating the use of biometric technologies for Combatant Commands, Services, and Agencies, to enhance interoperability and support the warfighter. The Biometrics Fusion Center (BFC) is the test and evaluation unit of the BMO. The BMO reports to the Army Chief Information Officer/G-6 who acts on behalf of the DoD Executive Agent for Biometrics, the Secretary of the Army. The recently formed Identity Management Senior Coordinating Group provides senior-level, DoD-wide strategic guidance to the BMO, given its mission to oversee efforts in the areas of Biometrics, Public Key Infrastructure, and Smart Cards.